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Investigation of Garrison by Louisiana Is Urged

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NEW ORLEANS, June 22—The Metropolitan Crime Commission of New Orleans called today for an investigation of the operations of District Attorney Jim Garrison.

The commission asked State Attorney General Jack Gremillion to request the deans of law schools in Louisiana and the heads of bar associations and civic groups to select three private lawyers as investigators for the project.

In an eight-page letter to the Attorney General, the crime commission said it had been contended that Mr. Garrison's investigation into the alleged conspiracy to kill President Kennedy "has included a series of attempts, by Garrison and members of his staff, to induce persons to give false testimony and/or to withhold pertinent facts, under promise of reward or threat of recrimination."

As a result, the commission said, "We believe we express the reaction of all objective observers when we state it is now imperative that an official, impartial, fact-finding procedure be established to immediately and exhaustively examine all allegations made against the Orleans Parish District Attorney's office."

Mr. Gremillion was reported by his office to be "somewhere in northern Louisiana," and could not be reached for comment. Mr. Garrison immediately challenged Aaron M. Kohn, managing director of the crime commission, to place his charges before the Orleans Parish (county) grand jury.

Mr. Garrison said he would ask the jury foreman to call Mr. Kohn, who along with E. C. Upton Jr., crime commission president, signed the letter to Mr. Gremillion.

The crime commission is a nonprofit citizen corporation organized under the laws of Louisiana to conduct research and investigation into the administration of law enforcement and criminal justice as they affect the metropolitan New Orleans area. It is financed entirely by voluntary contributions of business, industry and private citizens and has no government authority.

The crime commission's letter cited allegations made by several persons during the National Broadcasting Company's documentary "The J.F.K. Conspiracy; The Case of Jim Garrison" last Monday in which they were "pressured by Garrison's office to give false testimony."

"Implications of the allegations made against Garrison and his staff now reach far beyond the assassination probe," said the crime commission. "They raise justifiable doubts about handling by that office of the hundreds of cases each year in which persons are charged with crimes against the state.

The commission recommended that the investigators prosecute any persons that their inquiry showed had committed crimes.

Mr. Garrison contends that a conspiracy to kill President Kennedy originated in New Orleans. Clay Shaw, 54-year-old retired businessman, has been bound over for trial after a preliminary hearing, at which Mr. Garrison alleged that Mr. Shaw, the late Lee Harvey Oswald, and the late David W. Ferrie had plotted to shoot Mr. Kennedy. The Warren Commission named Oswald as the lone killer.

Aide Said to Deny Case

N.B.C. News reported last night that Senator Robert F. Kennedy had been told by Mr. Garrison's chief investigator that there was "no basis in fact and no material evidence in Garrison's case for an assassination plot against the late President Kennedy."

The investigator, William Gurvich, could not be reached by The Times for comment; nor could Mr. Garrison. Senator Kennedy, Democrat of New York, issued the following statement through a spokesman:

"At Mr. Gurvich's request I spoke to him in Washington recently. I have not discussed the substance of our conversation and I think it would be inappropriate to do so now."

The National Broadcasting Company report was broadcast on the 11th Hour News on television.